

(5) The chapter "Science and Research" focuses on the organizational side, whereas the question which research fields are chosen as key points (and why) has not been dealt with.

(6) In the chapter on "International Science Cooperation" the reader gets brief information on the different levels and types of exchange.

(7) A special chapter deals with "Youth Politics", and gives a picture of the serious problems of youth unemployment and the loss of prestige of the political leadership (the Communist Party and its mass organizations).

(8) Chapter 8, the appendix mentioned at the beginning, describes some important political decisions made between 1981 and 1983.

(9) In the short chapter 9 "Present Problems and Trends" the author tries to draw some conclusions and to indicate possible perspectives of development in quantitative (capacities of educational institutions, labour market, unemployment) as well as in qualitative terms (political uncertainties, problems in motivating young people etc.).

This book is worth reading and consulting as it offers a lot of detailed information in a structured form, and it allows comparison of the Chinese educational system with that of other countries. This means that the socio-political framework of the educational system is pushed into the background, as is the connexion between the educational and employment systems.

Matthias Risler

WOLFRAM EBERHARD, KRZYSZTOF GAWLIKOWSKI, CARL-ALBRECHT SEYSCHAB (eds.): *East Asian Civilizations. New Attempts at Understanding Traditions*. München: Simon und Magiera. Vol. 1: *Ethnic Identity and National Characteristics*. 1982. 203 pages, DM 23.-
Vol. 2: *Nation and Mythology*. 1983. 176 pages, DM 23.-

This new periodical is intended for the specialist as well as the general reader. In this way it should provide substantial information about the East Asian civilizations. Among the editors, advisers and authors are highly reputable scholars from several countries (e.g. Gu Jiegang, Joseph Needham etc.). According to the introductory preface this periodical is not to be a magazine including different articles on disparate topics; each issue will focus on only one general theme. In addition the reader will find articles discussing problems of general scientific interest and "field reports, sources, information".

The articles in the two numbers here under review are pieces of solid scholarly work; the source materials are cited, Chinese characters are given in an appendix, the approach is always critical and sophisticated.

Furthermore, many contributions are illustrated with reproductions of photographs, woodcuts, stone rubbings etc., to which the reader would sometimes have no access otherwise. These illustrations are very often of high information value, which makes this periodical attractive to the general reader.

The editors state that the subjects of their so-called "book publication series" are the traditional cultures of East Asia and their cultural significance in modern times. They exclude articles on political topics, as well as "contributions likely to offend individual nations". When dealing with the field of traditional history and culture it may be easier to fulfill these intentions, especially to avoid offending sensitive regimes and their - in certain respects - sometimes thin-skinned leaders. But one generally becomes acquainted with traditions mainly by history, and history is often used as a source of justification for the present state of affairs. So it remains doubtful whether a serious scholarly discussion of historical problems is always possible under these conditions (e.g. the discussion of H. Franke and W. Eberhard: *Is Sinology still Confucian-Minded?*).

Peter Greiner

MARTIN KROTT: *Programm für Chinas Zukunft*. (Mitteilungen des Instituts für Asienkunde Hamburg, 95). Hamburg: Institut für Asienkunde, 1978. 145 pages,

This brochure presents a wealth of information on three important documents from the year 1975 and a German translation of them: 1. Deng Xiaoping's "On the General Program of Work for the Whole Party and the Whole Nation", 2. "Some Problems in Accelerating Industrial Development" by the same author, 3. Hu Yaobang's "Outline Report on the Work of the Academy of Sciences". These documents were the starting-point of a violent internal conflict in the Chinese Communist Party and were denoted as the "Three Big Poisonous Weeds". After Zhou Enlai's death (January 1st, 1975) this caused Deng's second overthrow, he lost all his party offices and was then the target of bitter criticism and severe attacks by the group led by Jiang Qing. After Mao Zedong's death (September 9th, 1976) and the arrest of the Jiang Qing group - now called the "Gang of Four" - and their followers, Deng was rehabilitated and he regained all his former posts. He then became the most powerful leader in China after Mao, and step by step he realized his formerly criticized program for the national economy.

The editor Martin Krott provides a detailed chronology of the events of the years 1975-1977 and gives most interesting accounts of his personal experiences, especially at the Tiananmen Square during the incident of 4th and 5th April 1976. The excerpts from the critical articles about the three